

Fuller Seminary provides 21st Century glimpse

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — There are few better places to get a glimpse of what 21st century Christianity looks like than Fuller Theological Seminary.

The sun-splashed campus is a major, multicultural training ground for Protestant evangelicals — a group expanding quickly in the developing world and that wants to reconvert Christianity’s traditional strongholds in the West.

Overseas students from 70 nations make up more than a quarter of the enrollment; degree programs are offered in Korean and Spanish as well as English.

As Fuller President Richard Mouw sees it, his school trains religious leaders from all nations to work wherever they’re called. This is an era when all cultures are mixing and westerners won’t necessarily lead Christianity.

“We are seeing the internationalization of theology,” he says, “the shifting of boundaries.”

With 4,900 students from 100 denominations, Fuller vies with Texas’ Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for the title of America’s largest seminary. It’s also a leading institution on evangelicalism’s left flank.

The Pasadena-based seminary

has three parts: a conventional School of Theology and two pioneering graduate programs, a seminary-based clinical psychology school and the School of Intercultural Studies, or SIS.

Central to Fuller’s global impact, SIS was called the School of World Mission until 2003, when the name was changed because international alumni felt a “mission” degree was a liability in many countries.

SIS, which marks its 40th anniversary with a Nov. 7-10 conference, has sent some 3,500 graduates across the world as teachers, administrators, pastors and evangelists. It also helped attract many international students to Fuller’s School of Theology.

“Fuller was a pacesetter. We all owe Fuller a lot,” says professor Terry Muck of the newer mission school at Kentucky’s Asbury Theological Seminary. “They took what was staring them in the face, being on the West Coast in multicultural Los Angeles, and did something with it.”

Originally, SIS trained mainly mid-career missionaries for the United States and Canada. Gradually, students from overseas became the majority — though they’ve fallen back to a third of the pro-

gram’s students, due largely to visa and financial roadblocks faced by internationals hoping to study in the United States. Students’ plans after graduation reflect today’s complex religious patterns. For instance:

—Enock De Assis, who formerly directed missionaries that Brazil’s Presbyterians sent through Latin America and Africa, might return to Brazil to teach theology. Or he may work with Portuguese-speaking congregations in the United States.

—James Kissi-Ayitte, who previously evangelized fellow Ghanaians, then Liberian refugees in Ivory Coast, plans to teach at Ghana’s Central University College, an international school with 4,000 students sponsored by booming Pentecostal and Charismatic churches.

—Tabitha Singh, an ethnic Indian from Guyana raised in New York City, hopes to help rescue prostitutes in either South America or India.

—Aya Tasaka might become an evangelist back home in Tokyo, or work with the 63 Japanese churches

in the Los Angeles area, or evangelize Japanese students on U.S. campuses. Speaking with the students, it’s clear that the older emphasis on soul-winning alone is fading. These younger evangelicals intend to combine evangelism and social action and, unlike old “social gospel” liberals, emphasize efforts by Christian groups rather than relying on government action.

Dean C. Douglas McConnell says SIS students will work in developing nations where large numbers migrate, the HIV/AIDS epidemic is devastating populations, catastrophes put severe pressures on church leaders, average ages are declining and huge numbers of children are exploited for labor, combat and sex trafficking.

Yet Fuller analysts also consider the West a growing mission field. In Amsterdam, for instance, just 50,000 of the 735,000 residents are regular churchgoers, with 30,000 in growing immigrant churches that eventually want to re-evangelize the Dutch.

Church Briefs

Church bazaar Friday and Saturday

The Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby will hold its annual craft bazaar until 7 p.m. today and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the church, Fifth Street and Country Club Drive. The bazaar will offer a variety of holiday crafts, quilts and baked goods. All proceeds go toward mission projects.

Benefit dance scheduled next week

A benefit dance and auction will be held for Diane (Merrell) Homm, Saturday, Oct. 22, from 8 to midnight at the City Limits Convention Center, 2227 S. Range Ave. Featured entertainment will be “Shadow Riders,” a country western band. Admission is \$8 per person with the auction taking place at intermission. Donations for Homm, who was diagnosed with cancer, can be left at the First National Bank. All proceeds will help her and her husband, Richard, defray medical expenses. For questions, call Sherry Barrett, 462-6095, or Carolyn Miller, 460-6896. Also miscellaneous items for the auction are needed.

Community orchestra practices on Monday

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra holds rehearsals from 7:30 to 9 p.m., Mondays in the Colby High School band room. All musicians are invited to join the orchestra, said Sharon Kriss, one of the members. Musicians span a wide range of vocations and ages. For questions, call Kriss at 460-2800 or Mary Shoaff, 462-2391.

Chorus rehearses every Tuesday

The Hi-Plains Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines holds rehearsals every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin Ave. All female singers are encouraged to attend anytime. Larry Patterson of Norton is the director.

Edson Gym Market NOW OPEN

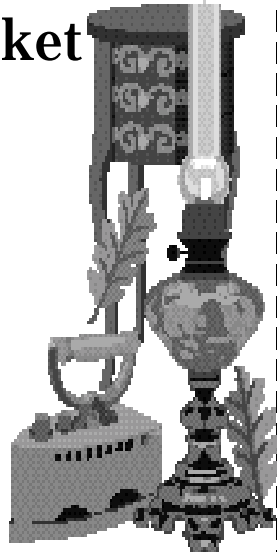
October Schedule

Oct. 7-8-9 9am-3pm

Oct. 21-22-23 9am-3pm

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SHARE the FAITH



WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Michael Eurit, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. (CDT)

Schedule of church services

ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September through May. Christian Education for Youth, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September through May

COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, Pastor, Jeremy Gundling, 245 W. College Dr. - 462-8234, Early Service - 8:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

BEREAN CHURCH, 1000 S. Franklin, 460-2763, www.colbyborean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Awana Clubs, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Middle & High School, Wednesday, 7 p.m. @ the Colby Armory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, Grant & Webster Street, 462-2867, Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Evening Worship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, (SBC), Pastor Tom Huffman, 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m.

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Chris Shubert. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Sunday Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Nights: 1st Sunday of the month: potluck following morning service - no evening service; 2nd Sunday: services at 6:30 PM; 3rd Sunday: informal fellowship - bring a snack to share! 4th and 5th Sunday: services at 6:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, 462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05 p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 p.m. and 9:25-9:40 p.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol

Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 462-6342, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship, 11:00 a.m. September through May; Worship 9:30 a.m. June through Labor Day.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, 320 W. Pine - 462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.

TEENS FOR CHRIST CONNECTION, Everett Robert, 462-7404, Both middle school and high school program.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 460-6605, President Dave Geldmacher, 846-7740; Elmer Schielke, 1st counselor, 462-9022 and Calvin Haverfield, 2nd counselor, 672-4165. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 12:10 p.m.; Family History Center open to public, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, or by appointment. Call 462-3571.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 462-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. http://www.gbmg-umc.org/colby-umc/

REDEEMING LOVE CHURCH, 345 N. Franklin, Apostle W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Service, Sunday, 10 a.m., Sunday worship, 11 a.m., Thursday, RLM Training Center (Bible School), 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 510 E. 4th, Jay Kelley, minister, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Eve. Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLBY EVANGELISM CENTER, Rev. Robert Cooper, 815 West 3rd - 462-2062, Sunday School 9:45; Sunday service 10:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Friday Youth Power Hour at 7:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. E-mail: fcccolby@st-tel.net

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Alvin Bruenger, serving interim, East 5th & Country club, 462-3497, Worship, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Lutheran Hour on KXXX at 10 a.m.; KGCR at 2 p.m. website http://www.trinitycolbyks.org

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Charlie Busch, 694-2242, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Evening service, 6:00 p.m.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, 112 Harrison, Pastor Jerry Vincent, 586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Michael Eurit, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. (CDT)

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.

THE SHEPHERD’S STAFF, REXFORD, Mr. Bob Leach, Director, 687-2565

REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men’s Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children’s Ministries (Royal Rangers/ Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Thurs. 4:00 p.m. - Women’s Bible Study

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